



Skywarn Recognition Day 2003

Wes Wilson, KØHBZ

On behalf of the **NWS Pueblo Skywarn Group**, I would like to thank all of the approximately 60 operators who attended and participated in the fifth annual **ARRL/NWS Skywarn Recognition Day** event on Friday,

gist in Charge Bill Fortune (KBØRPD), Tom Magnuson (KBØZWX) and the entire NWS Pueblo forecast staff for hosting the event and their warm hospitality.



Sharon Agun (KCØPBR), right, operates the HF SSB 2 station with Dean Haskins (KAØPII) as control operator/logger. In the background, Melinda Wright (KCØQQO) operates HF SSB 1 with James Deuel (NØXIA) as control operator/logger.

Photo by Lee Inman (KØQED)

Dec. 5th and Saturday, Dec. 6th at the NWS Forecast Office in Pueblo. Participants came from all over southern and southeastern Colorado.

I also would like to thank Meteorolo-

Skywarn Recognition Day (SRD) was developed in 1999 by the National Weather Service and the American Radio Relay League. It celebrates the contributions that volunteer SKY-

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Issue 54

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January 2004

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Please Note:

February 0-Beat deadline January 26, 2004

No content is accepted after the deadline.

Meetings Our monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm, temporarily at the El Paso County Office of Emergency Management, 305 S Union Blvd. Our Annual meeting is in October. Check the web site for any changes.

Regular License Exam Sessions Our ARRL VE test sessions are on the 2nd Saturday of even numbered month. Contact Erik KGØXE for details.

Examinees need to bring (1) \$12, preferably a check or money order payable to ARRL/VEC; (2) picture ID; (3) the signed original and a copy of your current amateur radio license and CSCEs you have (we keep the copies); and (4) a pen, pencil, and calculator if needed. Memory calculators will be checked.

February's VE session location is yet to be confirmed. Please check back here in next month's edition for the new location.

PPRAA Web Page See it at <http://www.qsl.net/ppraa/>. Thanks to Lee Inman KØQED for maintaining these pages.

Get on the PPRAA E-mail Reflector
Stay on top of new or short-fused developments. Subscribe at <http://mailman.listinfo.ppraanet>. Thanks to John Wishart KCØJFH for maintaining this list.

PPRAA Simplex Net New time and day to be announced soon.

Nonprofit Organization The PPRAA is a federal 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and welcomes all contributions. Your contributions/ donations may be tax-deductible.

Officers and Directors

President	Al Penney	VO1NO	alpenney@codenet.net
Vice President	Dennis Major	NØABC	n0abc@qsl.net
*Secretary	Joanie VerDuft	KCØGMI	verduftj@earthlink.net
Treasurer	John Hasling	KØAAI	
*Board Member	Tom McDaniel	NØNTX	n0ntx@amsat.org
Board Member	Kate Muniz	WB9BAH	wb9bah@aol.com
*Board Member	Ben Cruise	NØLNW	n0lnw@arrl.net
*Board Member	Jerry VerDuft	ADØA	verduftj@earthlink.net
Ø-Beat Editor	Tom Dawson	KCØNRZ	kc0nrz@arrl.net

* Indicates this Director is in the 2nd year of a two-year term

Committee Chairs & Other Contacts

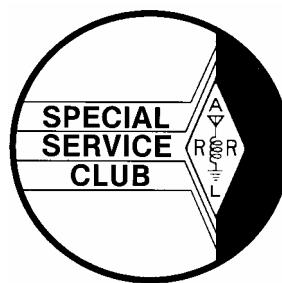
Activity	VACANT		
Auditing	Kate Muniz	WB9BAH	wb9bah@aol.com
Asset	Mike Stansberry	KØTER	k0ter@arrl.net
E-Mail Reflector	John Wishart	KCØJFH	john.wishart@hp.com
Historian	Ron Deutsch	NKØP	nk0p@arrl.net
Interference	Bill Petty	NØNJX	william.petty@lsil.com
Membership	Les Borst	KCØNC	kc0nc@worldnet.att.net
Programs	Dennis Major	NØABC	n0abc@qsl.net
Publicity	Rob Roller	N7LV	n7lv@amsat.org
Public Service	Mike Stansberry	KØTER	k0ter@arrl.net
Hamfest	Kate Muniz	WB9BAH	wb9bah@aol.com
Technical Education	Linda Hedges	KBØRKW	kb0rkw@juno.com
VE Testing	Erik Mugele	KGØXE	ve@teuton.org
Video Librarian	Dennis Major	NØABC	n0abc@qsl.net
Webmaster	Lee Inman	KØQED	k0qed@arrl.net
AMSAT Coordinator	Tom McDaniel	NØNTX	n0ntx@amsat.org
ARRL Awards Mgr	Rick Brown	KØSU	k0su@arrl.net
ARES EC	Sid White	K4ARM	k4arm@arrl.net
ARES Liaison	Mike Stansberry	KØTER	k0ter@arrl.net
ARRL Section Mgr	Jeff Ryan	KØRM	k0rm@arrl.net
CCARC Liaison	Moe Pierce	WBØRTF	wb0rtf@amsat.org
HamCon Chairman	Jerry VerDuft	ADØA	verduftj@earthlink.net
RACES Officer	Les Borst	KCØNC	kc0nc@worldnet.att.net

Upcoming Club Programs

January: Presented by Jim Pierson, N1SZ, and will cover Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) and possibly other sources of interference to amateur radio. Mr. Pierson is also an avid VHF-UHF contester and is a member of the W2SZ/I VHF contest group, and he is willing to give another presentation on Multi-multi VHF contesting back east. This

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Articles for the Ø-Beat Deadline for articles or ads is the 26th of the month. Submit articles by e-mail, US Mail, telephone or in person to the editor. Editor reserves right to edit for readability, grammar, spelling, punctuation and length.

Ø-Beat Available Electronically in PDF form via e-mail and on the web at <http://www.qsl.net/ppraa/zerobeat.htm>. Contact the editor for details.

Club and Local News

Presidents Message

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had a pleasant holiday season. Was Santa good to you – perhaps a new rig or antenna under the tree? I also want to say “well done” to Shelley VEINOS for organizing the Christmas Party. I had a very enjoyable time, and I’m constantly amazed at the talent displayed by our club members – who knew so many of them could sing “The Twelve Days of Christmas” with a mouthful of turkey?!

The fight against Broadband over Power Line (BPL) gained an ally recently. FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, informed the FCC that it has “grave concerns” about the impact of BPL on HF communications. This is great news! It is unlikely that the NTIA (National Telecommunications and Information Administration – the federal government’s frequency spectrum manager) will go against this, and so the FCC will be under pressure to outlaw or restrict BPL. Not sure what it’s all about? Not a problem! Just come to the January meeting and listen to our guest speaker Jim, NISZ. He is an engineer involved with frequency management issues, and will give us an overview of the entire situation. This is too important a topic to miss, so I look forward to seeing you all there.

On behalf of the club I would like to extend a “Bravo Zulu” (Navy talk for “well done”) to Rhoda KB2BZY for her 4 years of service in providing refreshments at club meetings. Thank you very much Rhoda! We do need someone else to take Rhoda’s place now though, so if you are interested, please contact me or any member of the Executive.

A reminder that Rick K0SU has volunteered to coordinate a General Course. This is an excellent opportunity to upgrade – without getting into the CW debate, those of you not on HF are missing a lot of fun! Why not give it a try?

That’s all for now – I think I’ll go get some antennas ready to put up. After all, winter **is the best** time for antenna work!

73

AI VO1NO / W0

PPRAA Club Meeting Minutes 12/12/2003

A special business meeting was called at the PPRAA Christmas Party on December 12th at Springs City Church. Meeting was called to order at 7:55 pm by President, Al Penney VO1NO. Kate Muniz WB9BAH requested authorization to purchase an ICOM HF Transceiver as the main prize for the 2004 PPRAA Swap Fest. It was moved, seconded and unanimously passed that she be authorized \$850 for this purchase. The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm in favor of our Christmas dinner and thanks to all who participated. It was a great time! Respectfully submitted by Joanie, KC0GMI, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes

No December meeting held due to Weather.

20 years ago at PPRAA

January 1984:

Since VE testing will soon be allowed by the FCC there is a lengthy article about the facts of VE testing. Colorado Springs will host the next CCARC meeting on March 17. Ongoing discussion at the club meeting about whether or not the club should acquire and operate a repeater. Frank KL7IPV presented a proposal for a repeater. A committee was established to determine the questions concerning a repeater for the club. The January meeting will be held at the Palmer House Motel on North Chestnut, just N of I-25 and Fillmore. The PPRAA is working more closely with the American Red Cross and will help by publishing a list of ARC classes in the Zero Beat. These courses are CPR, and standard and advanced first aid. This year's swapfest may turn into a hamfest. The board discussed the possibility of a larger location, a two-day event, and maybe even charging admission. The swapfest budget was \$200. Frank KL7IPV agreed to take over the duties of Editor. Board member Charlie Biggs KC0TI resigns due to personal conflicts.

73 and Happy New Year to all!!

(Continued from page 1)

WARN radio operators make to the National Weather Service. During the day, SKYWARN operators set up stations NWS Forecast Offices and contact other radio operators around the country (and world). The object is for hams to listen for, and contact, as many of these NWS stations as possible during a 24-hour period. Detailed event information is available online at <http://hamradio.noaa.gov>.

This year, a record 116 NWS Forecast Offices were registered to participate, however – as always seems to be the case – Mother Nature threw a fit and a few of the scheduled offices were unable to participate due to severe winter storms, primarily in the northeast and great lakes states. Last year (2002), our operation resulted in 636 contacts, which included working 47 states and 58 other NWS stations. This year (2003), we logged a record 681 contacts during the 24-hour event period, but the log analysis of states/NWS offices worked has not yet been completed by the event organizers. We also worked at least four DX stations, including Canada, Mexico, Brazil and the Philippine Islands. Thanks in part to a lot of dedicated “night owls,” both HF SSB stations managed to operate continuously for the full 24-hour period.

This is the 4th year that I have been asked to serve as the SRD Coordinator at NWS Pueblo, and I have to say that this event just keeps getting better and better – this is due to the help and cooperation of all the operators who come out, work together and help support the event!

A big part of our success comes from the outstanding effort, expertise and coordination of our individual Station Managers. This year we had four stations operational, 2 HF SSB, 1 HF Digital and a V/UHF/APRS/Packet station. Each Station Manager is responsible for making sure that all the equipment, antennas and support equipment (computers, logging software, etc.) is provided and set up properly. I’m very fortunate to have an outstanding group of station managers and assistants who work together regularly, this makes the job much easier for everyone involved.

Station Managers this year were: Lee Inman (KØQED), V/UHF/APRS/Packet; Mike Stansberry (KØTER), HF Digital; Dean Haskins (KAØPII), HF SSB 1; and I provided the HF SSB 2 station. In addition, we had several event assistants – Mike Allen (NØMIK), Jeff Smith (KBØYCI) and Pat Kelly (KCØMIR). Jerry Tucker (KJØT) and several other Pueblo-area hams took responsibility for monitoring/granting access to the secure government facility. From the start of setup, throughout the event and until teardown is complete, many of these people put in more than 36 hours with very little sleep.

This year we had more participants from a wider number of radio clubs and ARES groups than in any year previous, and this made the event especially fun and interesting. We also had a lot more Technician Class operators attend and get an opportunity to work HF stations with the assistance of control operators.

Everyone participating had a great time – one of the most memorable moments for me came about mid-day on Saturday. I had been working CW on +/- 14.04 MHz with Mike Stansberry (KØTER) logging on the HF Digital station. We made several contacts when – out of the blue – came a call from WIAW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station located at ARRL Headquarters in Newington CT. I blurted out “We’ve got WIAW!” and an excited buzz quickly grew as word of the always exciting contact spread around the room and facility.

Again, my thanks to everyone who helped support the event this year – and we’re already looking forward to **Skywarn Recognition Day** next year! **73**

(Continued from page 2)

would probably be a good program for May or June; probably May since June is usually reserved for Field Day preparation. Please give me, NØABC, your feedback about whether this would be of interest to you.

In February, the program will be Home Brew night. This is traditionally done in January, but is being preempted by the BPL presentation. More information will follow on February’s Home Brew night, so stay tuned!

ZL Special Antenna

AI, VO1NO

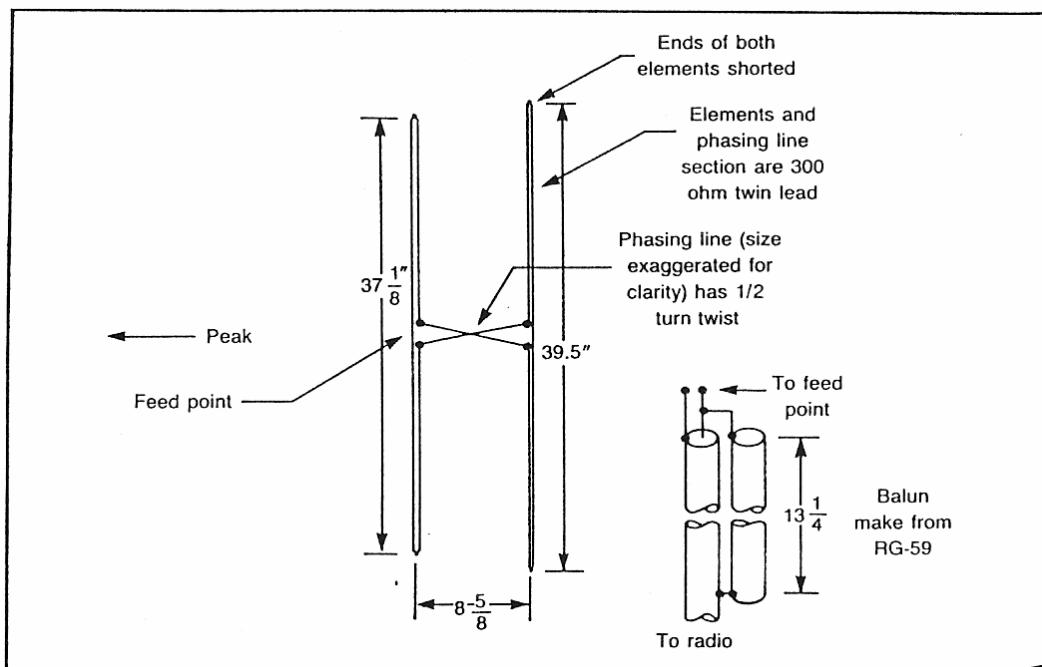
Here's a cheap and easy to build antenna that will work well for foxhunting or regular 2 meter operations. The ZL Special consists of two folded dipoles spaced 0.1 wavelength apart and fed 135 degrees out of phase. It offers a broad forward lobe with about 3 dB gain over a single dipole, and a very sharp null to the rear. The null gives a front-to-back ratio of approximately 20 dB, and this feature makes it useful for foxhunting. When hunting a weak signal you can use the forward lobe to get close to the transmitter. Once in the general area, flip the antenna around and use the null to obtain an accurate bearing on the transmitter.

The simplest way to build a ZL Special for foxhunting is to use regular TV type 300 ohm twin-lead taped to a light wooden frame. Try to use good quality twin-lead with AWG 20 or 22 wire. The foam type of cable is not required however. The phasing line between the two dipoles is also twin lead. Remember to give it a half-turn twist as indicated in the diagram. Remember also to short the wires at the ends of the dipoles.

To obtain the proper pattern, you must use a balun at the feed point. It is simple to build, and although the diagram specifies RG-59 cable, you can substitute RG-58 if necessary (hey – its only a difference of one!). Be sure to attach it at the proper place – the shorter of the two dipoles. Keep the feedline at a right angle to the dipole for a foot before letting it slope away – this helps prevent the pattern from being distorted.

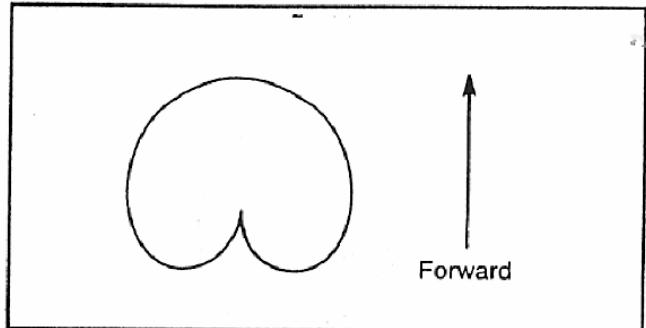
Try to keep the antenna away from large metal

objects when foxhunting, as this also tends to distort the pattern. To remember the direction of the null and broad lobe, you can indicate each on the antenna frame with an arrow – it might prevent you from walking in the opposite direction



during a foxhunt!

For more information on the ZL Special and foxhunting, check out *Transmitter Hunting* by Joe Moell KØOV and Tom Curlee WB6UZZ. This is the "bible" on foxhunting and has a lot of very useful information.



HF Operations

KID'S DAY IS SUNDAY, JANUARY 4!

For the first time, Kid's Day will occur on a Sunday. The first 2004 running of this popular operating event will be Sunday, January 4 (the second Kid's Day in 2004 will be Saturday, June 19). Intended to encourage young people--licensed or not--to enjoy Amateur Radio, Kid's Day offers a "mentoring opportunity" for experienced amateurs while giving youngsters some firsthand hamming experience and perhaps sparking a lifelong interest.

"Kid's Day is an opportunity to introduce your own youngsters, neighborhood kids and nieces and nephews to participate in the magic of ham radio," suggests Jean Wolfgang, WB3IOS, of ARRL Field and Educational Services. Originated by the Boring Amateur Radio Club <http://jzap.com/k7rat/>, Kid's Day now is sponsored and administered by the ARRL with BARC's cooperation and assistance. Now entering its tenth year, each running of Kid's Day typically attracts more than 1000 participants.

Kid's Day is not a contest, and patience is the by-word on both sides of each contact. The role of the licensee and control operator is to help youngsters with the basics, keep an eye on the technical aspects of the operation, observe third-party traffic restrictions <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/io/3rdparty.html> when making DX QSOs and ensure station identification at proper intervals. In this event, it's quality of the contacts that counts, not quantity.

Kid's Day will run from 1800 to 2400 UTC, and there's no limit on operating time. The suggested exchange is name, age, location and favorite color. Stations may work the same station again if an operator has changed. Call "CQ Kid's Day."

Suggested frequencies are 14.270-14.300, 21.380-21.400 and 28.350-28.400 MHz plus 2 meter repeater frequencies, with permission from the repeater's sponsor). Guidelines for this event are available on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kd-rules.html>.

All participants are eligible to receive a colorful certificate. Visit the ARRL Kid's Day Survey page <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kids-day-survey.html> to complete a short survey and post your comments. You will then have access to download the certificate page. Or you can send a 9x12 SASE to Boring Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 1357, Boring, OR 97009.

Kid's Day participants are invited to post logs and comments on the Internet <http://lists.contesting.com/pipermail/kids/>.

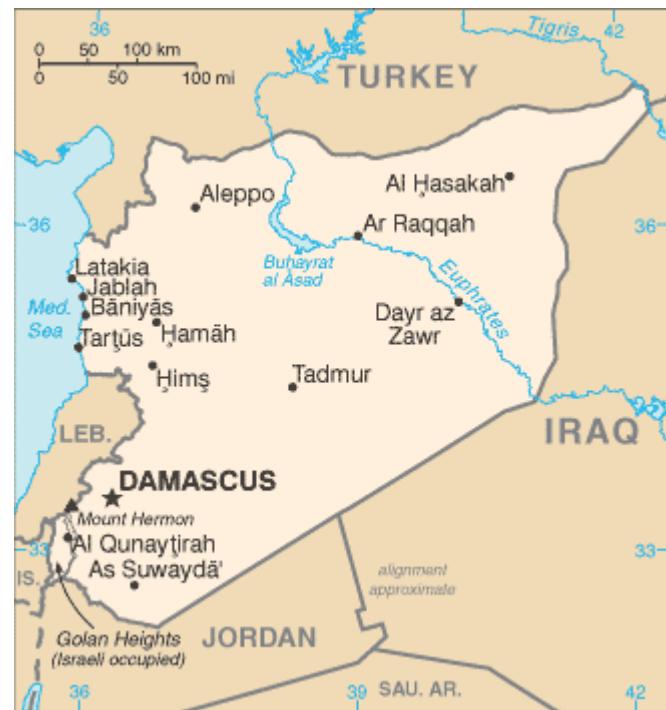
"From The ARRL Letter, Vol. 22, No. 50, December 19, 2003"

DX Location of the Month

(Note: Originally published in the May 2002 issue of "The Halifax Amateur Radio Club Reflector"

The Middle Eastern country of Syria is this month's DX Location. A country of fertile plains, mountains and deserts, Syria is home to 16 million people. Its capital is Damascus, major language Arabic, and major religion Islam.

Modern Syria gained its independence from France in 1946,



and has gone through several periods of instability due to the conflicting interests of the various groups that comprise the country. An army coup installed the pan-Arab Ba'ath Party into power in 1963. It still rules the country today

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Satellite Operations

HAM RADIO IN SPACE REACHES ANOTHER MILESTONE

Ham radio in space has reached another milestone with the successful installation and checkout of the first Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Phase 2 equipment. The ISS now sports a new Kenwood TM-D700E dualband transceiver in the Zvezda Service Module--the crew's living quarters. ISS Commander Mike Foale, KB5UAC, set up the new transceiver at NAISS earlier this month. Only official approval is needed to begin operations. Activation of the new gear will mean a power boost for the NAISS downlink signal, which could prove especially helpful in school group contacts. The additional equipment--which soon will include a slow-scan television (SSTV) system--also opens up new operational possibilities.

"Clearly, we've got multiop, multi-station capability," ARISS International Chairman Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, told ARRL. The ARISS Japan Team donated the Kenwood radio and made certain hardware and firmware modifications--including limiting its power output to a maximum of 25 W--to prepare it for flight, he said. Bauer and the ARISS US Team recently returned from Russia following successful ground testing of Phase 1 and Phase 2 equipment using a set of flight-identical ARISS antennas as well as testing of a slow-scan TV (SSTV) system.

The Phase 2 gear will use the four antennas installed on the Service Module during space walks in 2002 specifically to support Amateur Radio operations. Addition of the new antennas, which will cover from HF to microwave frequencies, opened the door to deploying the two separate ham stations aboard the orbiting outpost. Waiting in the wings is a Yaesu FT-100 HF/VHF/UHF transceiver that could go into space in January along with the new SSTV gear.

Bauer says the second ham station with the Kenwood transceiver is near the Service Module's dinner table and the window. "This prime location will allow the crew to more conveniently use the ISS ham radio system," he said. "They'll be able to

look out the window while operating from the Service Module." Complementing the Kenwood TM-D700E will be an Ericsson 70-cm handheld.

"Our intention is to operate SSTV on 70 cm with the Ericsson equipment," Bauer said, while the crew will use the Kenwood transceiver for ARISS school group contacts as well as for casual QSOs on 2 meters. The Kenwood radio also incorporates a TNC and can support the RSOISS packet system, not yet back in operation.

The Phase 1 "initial station" Ericsson 2-meter handheld, which has served as the only NAISS gear for more than three years, will remain in place in the ISS Zarya Functional Cargo Block (FGB).

Details of the ARISS Phase 2 gear is available on AMSAT's ARISS Web page

<http://www.amsat.org/amsat/ariss/Papers/Phase%202%20AGM03Final.pdf>.

"From The ARRL Letter, Vol. 22, No. 50, December 19, 2003"

November Finance Report

INCOME

Club Patches	20.00
Jacket Payment	60.00
Memberships	
Full Mbrshps	47.50
Over 65	42.50
TOTAL Memberships	90.00
TOTAL INCOME	170.00

EXPENSES

0-Beat Printing	80.00
TOTAL 0-Beat	80.00
Event Support	
Annual Picnic	103.66
TOTAL Event Support	103.66
Liability Insurance	329.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	512.66
OVERALL TOTAL	-342.66

How Not to Apply for a Vanity Callsign

Bob, KØNR

You probably know that the FCC lets you apply for a specific amateur radio callsign ("vanity callsign"), within some constraints. Of course, you can't have just any old callsign as all amateur radio callsigns conform to FCC regulations and international agreements. Most amateurs know that US ham radio callsigns start with A, K, N or W and have a single digit indicating the call area.

www.vanityhq.com

N4MC operates a web site devoted to tracking and sharing information on vanity callsign applications (<http://www.vanityhq.com>). This is a great web site and contains lots of helpful information. The site keeps track of what callsigns are available and are likely to become available due to license expiration. If you are thinking of applying for a new callsign, be sure to check this out.

The web site also tracks vanity call applications that were rejected because the requested callsign is invalid. I stumbled into this list and was amazed at the callsigns that some people are applying for.

Some of the errors are understandable, such as when AA5QP applied for A5NM. The FCC rules say that 1x2 callsigns must begin with either K.N or W (and not A). Similarly, an application for NO9DUH was rejected because 2x3 callsigns must start with K or W. An application for W4QSO was rejected because the FCC does not allow suffixes that resemble Q signals, specifically QRA through QUZ.

Then there are a series of rejections that make me conclude that some people are just not paying attention! N7VJI applied for RM7VA (and three other callsigns starting with RM). This clearly violates the rule that FCC callsigns start with A, K, N or W. Similarly, KG6RQL applied for H4KOR and H4KER. WA6HBT apparently decided that he didn't need a number in the callsign and applied for KWCQ, KCQ, WCQ and WWCQ.

But the most confused vanity application has to be the one that KC5UJG submitted. He applied for DVMSTR, MSTDVR, DIVER1, RESDVR, DVRDWN, H2ODVR, H2ORAT, SQUIDI, DPIDVR and others. I think the general theme here is "diving". I wonder if he got his motor vehicle license plate application confused with the ham radio license form.

2004 PPRAA Swapfest

Kate, WB9BAH

The 2004 PPRAA Swapfest will be held Saturday, June 12th at Lewis Palmer High School. A raffle will be held, with three major prizes:

Icom 706 MKIIG (w/Rmk-706)

Icom Q7A

And another radio to be determined, donated by Cheyenne Mountain Repeater Group.

We are in need of volunteers to help in the following areas:

Table Reservations

Programs

Door Prizes

Please contact Kate Muniz (WB9BAH) at wb9bah@aol.com if you have questions about what the above entails, or would like to just volunteer to take one of these tasks.

I am also looking for a co-chair for this Swapfest, to groom someone from the club for the possibility of my absence in 2005. It's always good to have a right-hand go-to person to co-chair a major committee such as this!

So step up to the plate, and help out with THE fundraiser of Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association! Let's make this next Swapfest the Best One Ever!!!

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under President Bashar al-Assad. The Ba'ath government has been characterized by authoritarian rule at home and a strong anti-Israeli policy abroad. In the past the government has dealt harshly with any opposition, but there have been some relaxations in the past several years. All media outlets are owned, operated or restricted by the government. The domestic and foreign press is censored for material deemed threatening or embarrassing to the government. Surprisingly though, there are no restrictions on receiving foreign broadcasts. A recent survey found that 22% of consumers in Damascus and Aleppo have satellite dishes!

(Continued on page 10)

The Amateur Radio Crossword Puzzler—Above the MUF

By H. Ward Silver, NOAX

Here's a puzzle packed peak-to-peak with potentially provocative pointers to provoke passion in the VHF/UHF person. All aspects ascertained as applicable are available. Get your brain into multi-mode, weak-signal gear and hit the PTT button.

Across

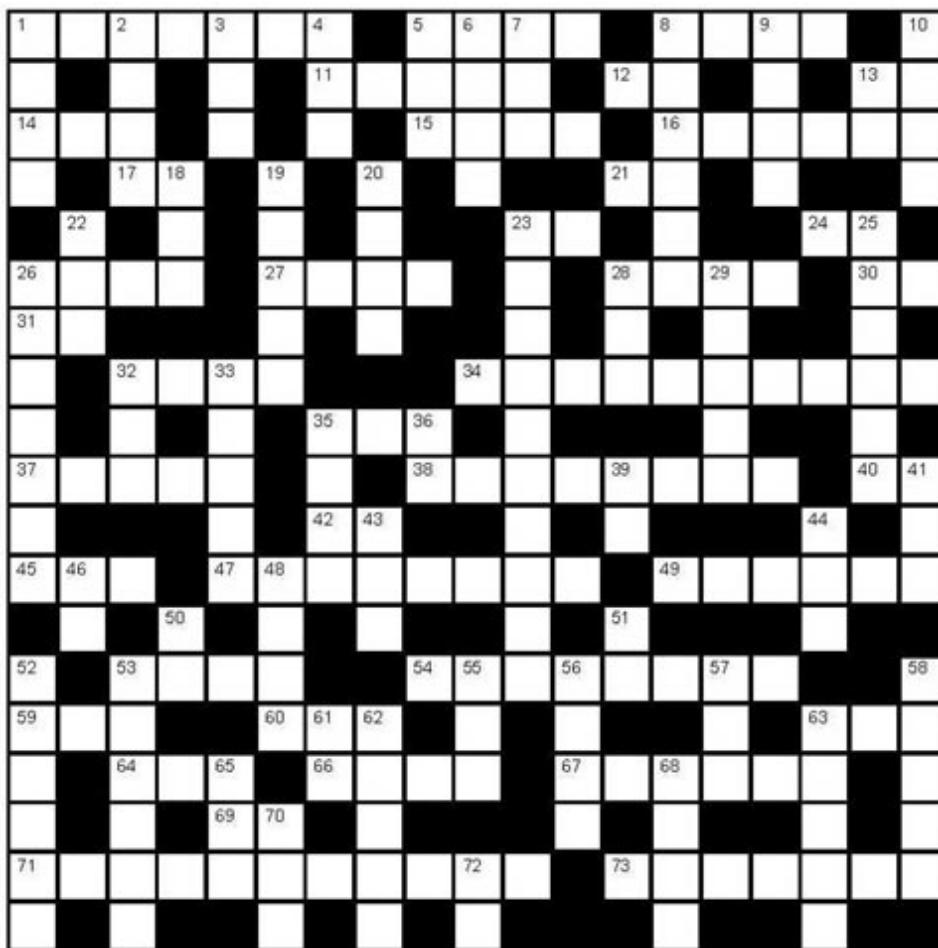
1. Logarithmic ratio
5. Slang for satellite
8. Satellite configuration
11. Thermal disturbance
12. After Stop
13. Transverse Mode (abbr.)
14. Also
15. Type of cell phone protocol (abbr.)
16. Spare
17. Phoned home
21. Laughing state (abbr.)
23. Two-axis rotator (with 30 across)
24. Abbreviation for 1 Across
26. Solar energy
27. Work these squares
28. CW and SSB are-signal modes
30. Other half of 23 across
31. Telephone (abbr.)

32. Award for grid chasers
34. 2-1/4 second round trip
35. Sensitive type of diode detector
37. Slang for atmospheric propagation
38. Full duplex relay
40. Noise figure (abbr.)
42. General call
45. Slang for radio
47. Occasional E-layer propagation
49. From outer space
53. Change from solid to liquid
54. Small, portable FM radio
59. Interference from radio (abbr.)
60. Previously possessed
63. Thyristor (abbr.)
64. Old abbreviation for Hertz
66. Adjust a transmitter
67. Illuminated by the sun
69. Millimeter (abbr.)
71. Methods and paths for radio waves

73. Polar zone in the ionosphere

Down

1. Nobody on the band
2. Morse invented this
3. Type of coax connector
4. Microwave amplifier (abbr.)
5. Smallest unit of information
6. High-speed telephone data service (abbr.)
7. Deepest type of sleep (abbr.)
8. Operating from a car
9. Rubber antenna
10. Analog cell phone system (abbr.)
13. Terminal Unit (abbr.)
18. Thanks (CW abbr.)
19. 6-meters is this type of band
20. Flexible portable antenna
22. Techs get ... privileges above 50 MHz
23. Dissipation of signal in the ionosphere
25. Unattended station to observe propagation
26. Rapid change in amplitude
28. Make the highest score
29. Over
32. Tunes a radio (abbr.)
33. Type of polarization that is lossy
35. Micro-micro
36. Number (abbr.)
39. End of message (CW abbr.)
41. DX means signals that go ...
43. Ready to copy (CW abbr.)
44. Type of synchronous satellite
46. Intercept Point (abbr.)
48. Trajectory of radio waves
50. Appended to new Extra class call-signs
51. Measure of acidity
52. Squeezes
53. Millionth of a meter
55. Top card
56. Round microwave antenna
57. Laughing out loud (abbr.)
58. Covering that lets air through
61. Automatic transmission (abbr.)
62. Channel in the atmosphere
63. Violent weather
65. Microwave connector (abbr.)
68. Curly laugh
70. Manager (abbr.)
72. Pipe thickness (abbr.)



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Public Service Communications



ARES

<http://www.qsl.net/ppares/>

VHF Net Tuesdays at 1900 on the 146.97 MHz
PPFMA repeater

Sid White K4ARM, PPARES EC

The year 2003 represented a welcome relief after the fires and other missions of 2002!

The Campbell Fire near Guffy was our only major mission in 2003. That mission gave rise to the definition of the role of the ham radio volunteer, at least where PPARES and the American Red Cross, Mile High Chapter are concerned. The understanding reached will serve us well in the future, enabling us to serve as communications specialists instead of in the capacities determined by on-site ARC personnel. In short, we will no longer be expected to provide transportation for food and other commodities.

There were several SKYWARN missions in 2003 as a few storms became severe and dumped hail in various locations. The most impressive weather service we provided, at least to those most affected, was during the Pikes Peak Ascent and Marathon with our links to Pueblo NWS and our real-time reports to event and medical personnel. According to Dean, KAØPIL, who was working at the Summit Medical Tent, our knowledge and access were thought to be "incredible" by the medical staff on the mountain.

A team from PPARES consisting of KØHBZ, NØMIK, N7LV, and KD6FLM took a modified version of the very successful, locally produced, Minimum Essential ARES Training (MEAT) on the road to Westcliffe where it was presented to members of Colorado ARES District 15 (Fremont and Custer Counties). Kudos to all involved in this very worthwhile and well-received project!

One of our members, Mike Allen, NØMIK, AEC-Training, attended a week-long class presented by FEMA's Emergency Management Institute. Attended by 75 representatives of various city and county agencies, the class at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, MD focused on dealing with the consequences of a terrorist attack involving biological agents.



RACES

<http://www.qsl.net/epcraces/>

VHF Net Tuesdays at 1930 on the 146.76 MHz
CMRG repeater

Les Borst KCØNC, RACES Officer

No updates this month

On October 30, 2003 a Memorandum of Understanding between the Tri-Lakes Fire Department and PPARES was signed. Larry Dunn, N9HSW will be the AEC heading this effort. A call for volunteers netted about fifteen operators, primarily from northern El Paso County, who are interested in forming the core of the group serving the TLFD.

A large-scale, multi-agency training exercise is being planned by the City of Colorado Springs for the May, 2004 time frame. Wes Wilson, KØHBZ, is representing PPARES in the planning of the exercise, which is expected to be one of the largest and most comprehensive in the city's history.

All in all, 2003 was a busy year. 2004 promises to be even busier with new and ever more diverse challenges.

73, de K4ARM

(Continued from page 8)

According to the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), in 2000 Syria had one club station, six individual stations, and a total of nine licensed operators. It is #72 on the ARRL DXCC most needed list. By way of comparison, Canada is #330, just slightly more needed than France and Italy! (A little surprising actually – France has 25,000 hams, while Canada has close to 40,000.)

Last week I worked Saad, YK1BA in Damascus, on 20m SSB. From what I can gather, he is an American who was visiting Syria, and has probably returned to Texas by now. His home call is N5FF, which is also the QSL route. I am not sure what rig he had, but he was using a G5RV antenna and 100 watts. His signal report was 5x8. Let's hope that Saad can visit more often and use other bands!

December's VE session

There were seven candidates for the December 13 test session. Of these, there were three new Technicians, one Technician with HF, and one CSCE for Morse Code Element I. Additionally, there were two former hams - one was a previous Technician Class from the late seventies, who passed Element 2 to gain his General Class license. And, the other candidate was a former ham whose Extra Class license had expired 20-some years ago, as I understand. This gentleman took and passed all four elements to go from zero to Extra in one test session.

CONGRATULATIONS to all!

Please note that the testing location will change for the 2004 sessions; please stay tuned for the new location.

Zero-Beat Articles Needed

Please email to
KC0NRZ@ARRL.NET

Jess Miley
KØTAA

719 W 7th, Florence, CO, 81226 719-784-3040

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Membership Application for the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc. P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521

Date: _____

New Member Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Call: _____ Class: N T + G A E Phone: _____

Mbr of ARRL? Yes No E-mail: _____

Additional Family Members to Join/Renew:

Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____

Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____

Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____

In which activities would you like to participate?

Field Day

Demonstrations

Nets or round tables

Organize activities

Teach ham classes

Full Member \$15:

Family Membership \$18:

Over 65 \$10:

Over 65 Family \$12:

Associate \$12:

Ø-Beat Only \$12:

Donation to Club: \$ _____

Total Enclosed: _____

**MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE
TO "PPRAA"**

Please indicate how you'd like your Ø-Beat delivered:

(Defaults to standard hard copy in the event that NO check boxes are checked)

" Standard hardcopy via U.S. Mail

" As a PDF file attachment via e-mail, to help save a few bucks

" I'll save the club a few bucks and download it from the Web!

Circle your interests Ø HF / V/UHF / FM / SSB / Digital / DX / Contests / Technical / Hardware / Other _____

New and renewing members must submit a completed application form along with your check to the Treasurer.

Please Type or Print Clearly!

ALL NEW MEMBERSHIPS AND RENEWALS WILL BE PRORATED TO EXPIRE IN DECEMBER!!

Classifieds

To place a classified ad please email to KC0NRZ@ARRL.NET. Ad should be short and concise. Remember to include a phone number and email address.

For Sale: Icom 740, ham bands only, built-in AC supply, \$300. Kenwood TS-850SAT, built-in auto tuner, full cov rcvr, CW/SSB xtal filters, base mic, owners manual, service manual, original box, \$1000 (or both for \$1200). Cash only. Great condition, willing to put on air for testing. Dan Holmes NH6EU, 439-3287, daniel-holmes@adelphia.net.

Membership Committee Report

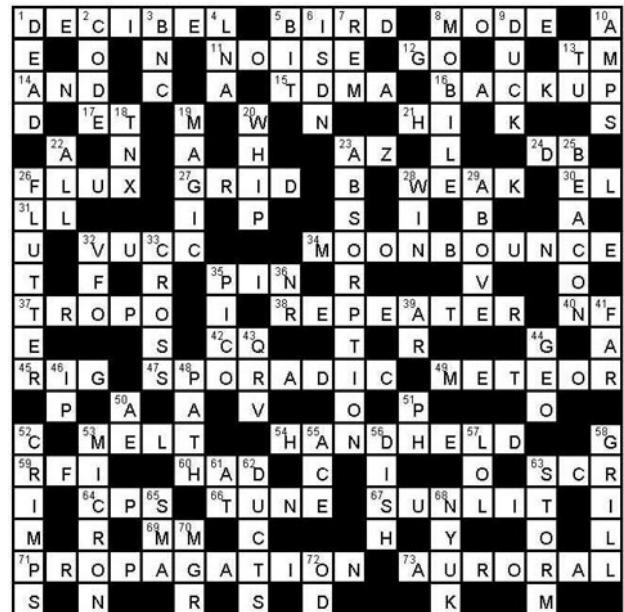
Les, KC0NC

No report for December

Pikes Peak Region Ham Radio Events

Date	Event
1/14/2004	PPRAA Club meeting
1/19/2004	PPRAA Board meeting

1/21/2004 Marc club meeting



**Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 16521
Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521 USA**

First Class Mail

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